



**Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona**

PRESS RELEASE

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For Information Contact Public Affairs
SANDY RAYNOR
Telephone: (602) 514-7625
Cell: (602) 525-2681

ILLEGAL ALIEN WITH PRIOR FELONY CONVICTIONS SENTENCED TO 75 MONTHS IN PRISON

TUCSON, Ariz. –The U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announced that Ernesto Gil-Vega, 48, of Caborca, Sonora, Mexico, was sentenced here today to 75 months in prison by U.S. District Judge David C. Bury.

Ernesto Gil-Vega pleaded guilty to illegally re-entering the United States on November 8, 2004 in the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge after a prior deportation and to violating a condition of his previous release from custody by re-entering the U.S. without authorization. Gil-Vega had previously been deported four times and had a prior conviction in 2001 in U.S. District Court in Phoenix for illegal re-entry after deportation for which he was sentenced to 40 months in prison. He also has several prior drug-related and theft convictions. Gil-Vega faces deportation after serving his 75 month sentence. Gil-Vega has used 25 known aliases and 10 different dates of birth.

Gil-Vega had pleaded guilty on January 25, 2005 to illegal re-entry after deportation, in violation of Title 8, U.S. Code, Section 1326(b)(2).

The investigation in this case was conducted by U.S. Border Patrol. The prosecution was handled by Monte C. Clausen, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz.

CASE NUMBER: CR-04-02475-TUC-DCB
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